

# DALE FARM RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Secretary  
Grattan Puxon  
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Ms Sue Marriott  
Basildon Borough Council  
St Martins Square  
Basildon SS14 1DL

9 December 2011

Re: John Sheridan 25 Beauty Drive (Carta Plot 22)

Dear Sue Marriott,

This is addressed to you as the contact person for matters concerning the Dale Farm estate and actions taken, and pending, relating to private properties there.

You are already aware that I am the secretary of the Dale Farm Residents Association and an authorised volunteer advocate for the residents, including Mr John Sheridan, of 25 Beauty Drive (aka Carta Plot 22).

In earlier correspondence on his behalf, I queried the requirement that he should remove the hard-standing on his property and replace it with topsoil and sow to grass seed.

You have since identified that the alleged Enforcement Order on which the legality of this requirement was imposed on Mr Sheridan was in reality null and void, and therefore your demand was illegal and fraudulent.

The instructions the Council issued to your contractors for the clearance commencing on 19 October specifically say in respect of Carta Plot 22 "hard-standing to remain". There are also general instructions, as you know, stating "fences and walls to be retained or removed and replaced."



Leader of the Council Mr Tony Ball has since announced that the Council intend to place a mortgage charge of £80,000 on each of the private properties on the estate that were subject to your direct action clearance.

Mr Sheridan has expressed his concern that this charge applies to his property. He wishes to remind the Council that there is a Certificate of Lawful Use authorising the running of a scrap-yard at this location, of which he has a copy.

Bearing in mind that no more than a scrapping of the concrete surface on Carta Plot 22 has taken place, and that fences and gate (though obstructed) remain intact, he requests that:

- 1) A full explanation and break down of the sum of £80,000 in respect of the charge being made on Carta Plot 22
- 2) Failing a complete and reasonable justification for the sum named, a statement informing Mr Sheridan what modified total charge might be sought instead.
- 3) An assurance that the illegal blocking of the right of way onto his property through the creation of an earth bund across his gate will be removed by 15 December next.

Unless he hears from you (to the above email address) by 15 December, it will be assumed that you have no legal reason for objecting to or otherwise opposing clearance of the obstruction of the entrance Mr Sheridan's property.

Yours sincerely,

Grattan Puxon

CC solicitors Keith Lomax, Keith Coughtrie, John Sandiford, Polly Glynn